

F B I

Date: 12-10-65

Transmit the following in

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)
(157-

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP184/4
REASON - 1.01
DATE OF REVIEW 12-11-85

FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (157-572)
(157-840)

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE
AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RM
(ORGANIZATION)

RM

Re Chicago airtel to Bureau dated 11/12/55.

Enclosed for the Bureau are nine copies of a letterhead memorandum and for New Orleans three copies, concerning captioned matter.

requested).

REC- 79

ST-10

4) - Bureau (Enc. 9) (1 - 157-) ()

3 - New Orleans (157-3290) (Enc. 3)
(Deacons of Defense and Justice, Incorporated
(1 - 157-) ([REDACTED])
3 - Chicago b7C
(1 - 157-413)

LGR/mjt
(10)

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CG 157-572
CG 157-840

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b1

(c) [REDACTED]

One copy of this letterhead memorandum is being designated for Region I, 113th INTC Group; United States Secret Service, and the United States Attorney, Chicago, Illinois.

LEADS

NEW ORLEANS

AT NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA. Will furnish Chicago photograph of EARNEST THOMAS and any information received concerning the current whereabouts of THOMAS and any indication that a chapter of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Incorporated, may be organized in Chicago.

CHICAGO

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. Will be alert for any information concerning the opening of a Chicago Chapter of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Incorporated, and the Bureau and New Orleans will be kept fully informed of developments in this matter.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Chicago, Illinois
December 10, 1965

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND
JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RACIAL MATTERS
(ORGANIZATION)

████████████████████
RACIAL MATTERS

b7C

Reference is made to memorandum dated November 12,
1965, at Chicago, Illinois.

On the dates indicated the following advised that
no information has been developed which would indicate that
a chapter of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Incorporated
(DDJ) has been formed in Chicago. They also advised that
there has been no indication that Earnest Thomas, who is
associated with the DDJ, is presently in Chicago.

██
Chicago, November 16, 1965.

b7C
b7D

██
Chicago, December 7, 1965.

██
December 8, 1965.

██ (C) b1

Confidential informants who are acquainted with
certain racial matters in the Chicago, Illinois area advised
during December, 1965, that no information has been received

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 gpk/ll 7-22-85
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2. 4.2 2.
DATE OF REVIEW 12-10-85

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

ENCLOSURE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

157-460-100

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

that would indicate that a chapter of the DDJ has been formed in Chicago. They advised that Earnest Thomas has not been in Chicago for the past few weeks but is expected to return to Chicago sometime in the future.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Chicago, Illinois
December 10, 1965

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Title

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND
JUSTICE, INCORPORATED

Character

RACIAL MATTERS
(ORGANIZATION)

Reference

is made to memorandum dated
and captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities
are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable
information in the past.

b1
[redacted] is [redacted]

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions
of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to
your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed
outside your agency.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

F B I

Date: 11/24/65

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

FROM: SAC, SEATTLE (157-507) (RM)

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.
RACIAL MATTER (ORGANIZATION)

[REDACTED] b7C
RACIAL MATTER

Re Chicago airtel to Bureau 11/8/65; New
letter to Seattle 11/2/65 (IO).

Referenced communications pertained to an article
appearing in the "Chicago Evening Tribune" which
indicates that "Northern branch of Deacons of
Defense and Justice is in Seattle, Washington. Local
agencies and special sources in Seattle, however, are
unable to furnish any information concerning this
organization in the Seattle area. It has been
requested to notify this office immediately if the
any information concerning it comes to their attention.
Mention of the Deacons of Defense and Justice
by local news media in this area. It is noted that
last month a branch of this organization was
Washington, was made public. Also provided
Eugene THOMAS, while in Chicago.

In the event Chicago or New Orleans receive any
other information concerning the all over organization of a branch
in Seattle, this office should be immediately advised.

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - Chicago (157-572)
- 2 - New Orleans (157-8200)
- 1 - Seattle

OWL:MEW

(3)

REC- 51 157-2466- 101

NOV 24 1965

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-22-80 BY SP18LTK

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW ORLEANS	DATE 12/30/65	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 11/9/65-12/23/65
TITLE OF CASE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, FERRIDAY, LOUISIANA		REPORT MADE BY SA [REDACTED] b7C	CHARACTER OF CASE RM

SUMMARY REPORT

REFERENCE:

Report of SA [REDACTED] at New Orleans dated 10/14/65. b7C

- P -

LEADS:

NEW ORLEANS DIVISION

AT FERRIDAY, LOUISIANA

Will maintain contact with individuals in the Deacons for Defense and Justice in order to be aware of their activities.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7-22-80 BY SP102/LH

APPROVED [Signature]	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW
COPIES MADE: 2 - Bureau (157-2466) (RM) 1 - Secret Service, New Orleans (RM) 1 - ONI, New Orleans (RM) 1 - ICG, New Orleans (RM) 1 - OSI, Earksdale AFB (RM) 2 - New Orleans (157-5624)		157-2466-102 8 JAN 4 1966

AGENCY: ACSI, ONI, OSI, SEC. SER.,
DEPT. OF DEFENSE, CRS

DATE FORW: 1/7/66
HOW FORW: [Signature]
BY: [Signature] Bpm: [Signature]

NO 157-5624/bab

An extra copy of this report is furnished to the Bureau for dissemination to Secret Service, Washington, D. C., in view of the fact that the subject falls within Category 5(c) of the Agreement Between the FBI and Secret Service concerning Presidential protection.

A copy of this report is being furnished to ICG, ONI and Secret Service, New Orleans, as well as OSI, Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana, in view of their interest in Klan matters.

- B* -
(COVER PAGE)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New Orleans, Louisiana
December 30, 1965

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Director
United States Secret Service
Department of the Treasury
Washington, D. C. 20220

Re: Deacons for Defense and
Justice, Ferriday, Louisiana

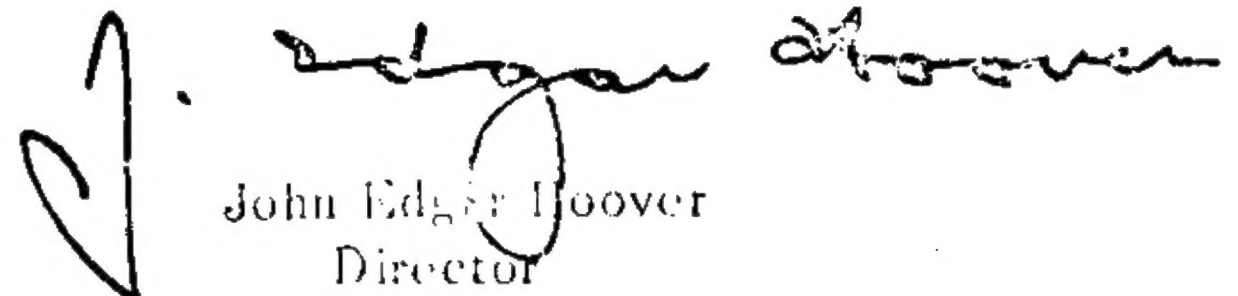
Dear Sir:

The information furnished herewith concerns an individual who is believed to be covered by the agreement between the FBI and Secret Service concerning Presidential protection, and to fall within the category or categories checked.

1. ☐ Has attempted or threatened bodily harm to any government official or employee, including foreign government officials residing in or planning an imminent visit to the U. S., because of his official status.
2. ☐ Has attempted or threatened to redress a grievance against any public official by other than legal means.
3. ☐ Because of background is potentially dangerous; or has been identified as member or participant in communist movement; or has been under active investigation as member of other group or organization inimical to U. S.
4. ☐ U. S. citizens or residents who defect from the U. S. to countries in the Soviet or Chinese Communist blocs and return.
5. ☒ Subversives, ultrarightists, racists and fascists who meet one or more of the following criteria:
 - (a) ☐ Evidence of emotional instability (including unstable residence and employment record) or irrational or suicidal behavior;
 - (b) ☐ Expressions of strong or violent anti-U. S. sentiment;
 - (c) ☒ Prior acts (including arrests or convictions) or conduct or statements indicating a propensity for violence and antipathy toward good order and government.
6. ☐ Individuals involved in illegal bombing or illegal bomb-making.

Photograph ☐ has been furnished ☐ enclosed ☐ is not available
☐ may be available through _____

Very truly yours,


John Edgar Hoover
Director

1 - Special Agent in Charge (Enclosure(s))
U. S. Secret Service

Enclosure(s)

(Upon removal of classified enclosures, if any, this transmittal form becomes UNCLASSIFIED.)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

1 - Secret Service, New Orleans (RM)
1 - OSI, Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana (RM)
1 - ONI, New Orleans (RM)
1 - ICG, New Orleans (RM)

Report of:

SA [REDACTED] b7C Office NEW ORLEANS

Date:

12/30/65

File Number:

157-5624

Bufile: 157-2466

Title:

DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,
FERRIDAY, LOUISIANA

Character:

RACIAL MATTER

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-22-80 BY SP1 JH/ff

Synopsis:

Local unit of Deacons at Ferriday, Louisiana has present membership of 23 members. Increase in membership and activities due to recent acts of violence committed against Negroes at Ferriday, Louisiana. Activities include weekly meetings and an all night patrol of the Negro section. Each deacon has at least one weapon and the unit has three semi-automatic Carbines and two walkie-talkies which are used for patrolling.

- P -

DETAILS:

On November 9, 1965, [REDACTED] advised that the Deacons for Defense and Justice at Ferriday, Louisiana has still not gotten off the ground.

[REDACTED] the Deacons were completely disorganized and their membership was null.

NO 157-5624/bab

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated he knew nothing about machine guns which are allegedly in the possession of the Deacons of Defense and Justice at Bogalusa, and Jonesboro, Louisiana. He stated that if he did come across information as to their origin, descriptive data and serial numbers he would furnish this information to the FBI.

b7C
b7D

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

3 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(7)(C) and (b)(7)(D) with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

- ☐ For your information: _____

- ☐ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: _____

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI NEW ORLS

4:24 PM CST 12-23-65 URGENT RRR

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-8-38)

FROM: NEW ORLEANS (116-201)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7-22-80 BY SP1/80/1/1

RACIAL SITUATION, BOGALUSA, LOUISIANA. RACIAL MATTER.
REFERENCE

RE NEW ORLEANS WIRETEL TO BUREAU, 11:20 PM, LAST.

[REDACTED] ADVISED THIS DATE
THAT CHARLES SING, PRESIDENT OF THE [REDACTED] DEFENSE AND
JUSTICE AND MEMBER OF BOGALUSA VOTERS LEAGUE, SUBMITTED
A PARADE PERMIT [REDACTED]. THIS PARADE WOULD BE SPONSORED
BY THE BOGALUSA VOTERS LEAGUE SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER TWENTY
FOUR, NEXT AT TWO THIRTY PM. [REDACTED] ADVISED THE PARADE
WILL BEGIN AT THE NEGRO LABOR TEMPLE AND PROCEED TO THE CITY
HALL AND JAIL AND RETURN TO THE NEGRO LABOR TEMPLE.

b7C
b7D

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] ADVISED THE MARCHERS
WOULD BE AFFORDED MAXIMUM POLICE PROTECTION.
END

NINE-NINE WORD TELGT SHOULD BE-AND-

WATKIN

FBI WASH DC

TUP

NOT RECORDED
202 DEC 20 1965

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (Your file 187-3465) DATE: 12/23/65

FROM : Director, FBI (Bufile and Serial 157-2466)
Room No. 801 F.B.☒ Post in file and
destroy 0-1
(For SOG use
only)SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
RACIAL MATTERSALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7-23-88 BY SP/22/1/☐ 1. Bufiles indicate this case is delinquent. Give specific reason for delinquency.☒ Reurlet 10/26/65.☐ airtel ☐ letterhead memo ☐ submitted☐ 2. DATE ☐ report
☒ letter ☐ 90-day progress letter☒ will be submitted 12/23/65

Reporting employee

☐ 3. If valid reason exists for not submitting report at this time, state reason specifically and when report will be submitted☒ 4. Status of ☐ Appeal ☐ Inquiry ☒ Investigation ☐ Prosecution☐ airtel ☐ letterhead memo
☐ 5. Submit ☐ report
☐ letter ☐ 90-day progress letter by

Place reply hereon and return to Bureau. Note receipt and acknowledgment on top serial in case file.

DATE: 1/7/66

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
RM

OO: NEW ORLEANS

Re Los Angeles airtel to Bureau dated 10/25/65,
with enclosed letterhead memorandums.

ON 12/20/68, [redacted] Agent, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Unit, (Los Angeles), advised [redacted], Los Angeles, advised [redacted] received information regarding the shipment of machine guns from [redacted] to the Deacons

██████████ advised that the details of this transaction may take several months to obtain.

In view of the Bureau's interest in this matter, Los Angeles will maintain close contact with ATTU for information concerning this matter.

Los Angeles is placing this case in a pending inactive status, to be opened again in 60 days.

Q-7 to L.A. 2/17/66
Submit contents of
relet in form of
suitable for dissemination.
OPM: (1)

REC-6

157-2466-103

3 JAN 10 1966

2 - Bureau (RM)
2 - New Orleans (157-3290) (RM)
1 - Dallas (Info) (RM)
1 - Los Angeles

RNT/pkm
(6)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-22-80 BY SP1 gpl/jl

60 JAN 17 1966

~~SURV. CONTROL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CONFIDENTIAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE NEW ORLEANS	OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW ORLEANS	DATE 1/10/66	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 8/10/65-12/21/65
TITLE OF CASE DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC., aka. Deacons for Defense and Justice, Inc.		REPORT MADE BY SA [REDACTED] b7C	TYPE RM
		CHARACTER OF CASE RM	

REFERENCE:

New Orleans report of SA [REDACTED] b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT - P -
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

LEADS:

CHICAGO DIVISION

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Will maintain contact with sources and informants in order to determine if EARNEST THOMAS organizes a Chapter of the Deacons in that city.

NEW YORK DIVISION

CLASS. & EXT. BY **SP1/SCW/1/11/7/22-8**
REASON - FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW **1-10-86**

APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: 2-BUREAU (157-2466) (RM) 4-NEW ORLEANS (157-3290) SEE COVER PAGE B FOR OTHER COPIES		157-2466-14	1 JAN 13 1966
DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT		NOTATIONS	
AGENCY	AGENCY	ATTN: (Sec. 1) CRS (co. mail) INT. SEC. CONFIDENTIAL	
REQUEST RECD.	AGENCY		
DATE FWD.	AGENCY		
HOW FWD.	AGENCY		

NO 157-3290/cay/med

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COPIES CONTINUED:

1 - Birmingham (157-1446) (RM)
1 - Boston (157-387) (RM)
1 - Charlotte (157-882) (RM)
2 - Chicago (157-572) (RM)
1 - Columbia (RM)
1 - Detroit (RM)
1 - Houston (RM)
1 - Jackson (RM)
1 - Mobile (157-1017) (RM)
2 - New York (157-1542) (RM)
1 - Savannah (157-731) (RM)
1 - ICG, New Orleans (RM)
1 - Secret Service, New Orleans (RM)

LEADS CONTINUED:

AT NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

Will, through informants and sources, be alert to any information concerning the Deacons attempting to establish Chapters in that area.

NEW ORLEANS DIVISION

AT BOGALUSA, LOUISIANA

Will maintain contact with informants and sources in order to be aware of the activities of the Deacons in Washington Parish, Louisiana.

AT HOMER, LOUISIANA

Will maintain contact with leaders of the DDJ in that area.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NO 157-3290/cay/med

AT JONESBORO, LOUISIANA

Will maintain contact with [REDACTED] b7D
in order to be aware of pertinent activity on the part
of the DDJ.

(C)

[REDACTED]

- C -
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

NO 157-3290/cay/led

ADMINISTRATIVE

Copies of this report are being furnished to listed offices for information purposes, inasmuch as there is a possibility that investigation will be requested by these offices.

Copies are being furnished to ICG, New Orleans, and Secret Service, New Orleans and Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Unit, New Orleans, is being advised by separate communication covering the machine 8935 allegedly in possession of the Deacons.

[REDACTED] b1

- P* -
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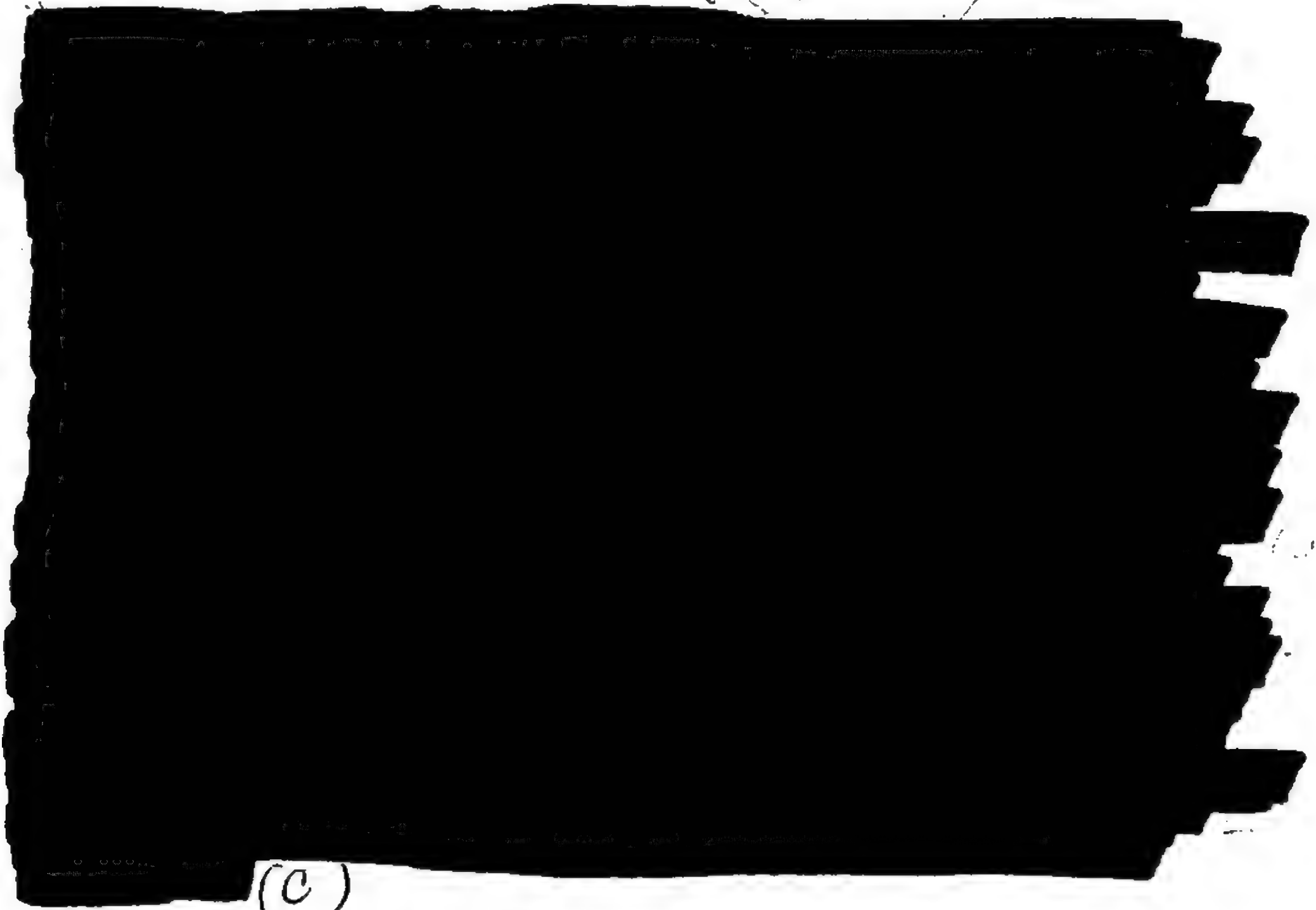
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION~~CONFIDENTIAL~~Copy to: 1-112TH INTELLIGENCE CORPS GROUP, NEW ORLEANS (RM)
1-SECRET SERVICE, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA (RM)Report of: SA [REDACTED] b7C Office: NEW ORLEANS
Date: JANUARY 10, 1966

Field Office File No.: 157-3290 Bureau File No.: 157-2466

Title: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.

Character: RACIAL MATTERS

Synopsis:


(C)CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 gch/fj 7-22-88
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2.2
DATE OF REVIEW 1-10-86

DETAILS:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NO 157-3290/cay/med

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Characterizations of Revolutionary Action
Movement (RAM), Spartacists, Socialists Workers Party,
and the Workers World are attached hereto in the Appendix
Section of this report.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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11 NO 157-3290/cay
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

14 ORGANIZATION
15

16 The Articles of Incorporation of the Deacons of
17 Defense and Justice (DDJ) as on file with the Secretary of
18 State, for the State of Louisiana, reflects that the Deacons
19 of Defense and Justice, Inc. is a Louisiana corporation
20 domiciled at Jonesboro, Louisiana. The location and busi-
21 ness office address of its registered office shall be Amos
22 Service Station (rear), Beach Spring Road, Drawer B,
23 Jonesboro, Louisiana.
24
25

26
27 PURPOSES
28
29

30 "This corporation is organized for the following
31 purposes and to carry on the following purposes: To instruct,
32 train, teach and educate Citizens of the United States and
33 especially minority groups in the fundamental principles of
34 the republican form of government and our democratic way of
35 life; to instruct, teach, train and educate said persons in
36 the provisions of the constitution and laws of the United
37 State and the State of Louisiana, as well as the constitu-
38 tion and laws of any other State wherein this corporation
39 may operate; to instruct, teach, train and educate said per-
40 sons in the use, value and purpose of the ballot and the
41 right to vote; to instruct, teach, train and educate said
42 persons as to the duties and responsibilities of good citi-
43 zenship relative to the obligation and duties of the citizen
44 to the community and the obligation and duties of the com-
45 munity to the citizen: To further instruct, teach, train
46 and educate said persons in the value of economic security
47 and in the effective use of their spending power; to inspire
48 in said persons a sense of responsibility and to develop
49 leadership. This corporation has for its further purpose,
50 and is dedicated to, the defense of the civil rights, prop-
51 erty rights and personal rights of said people and will
52 defend said rights by any and all honorable and legal means
53 to the end that justice may be obtained. This corporation
54 may establish chapters and conduct its business at any place
55 in this State and elsewhere as permitted by law.
56

57 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
58

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CHAPTERS

1. Jonesboro, Louisiana
2. Bogalusa, Louisiana
3. "Homer, Louisiana

[REDACTED] b1 (c)
stood that Negroes in Plaquemine, Monroe, and Ferriday,
Louisiana, had requested assistance in forming DDJ Chapters.

On August 20, 1965, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] b7C b7D
advised that they had received information that the DDJ
had started a chapter in the New Orleans area and that
[REDACTED] was the co-ordinator
of this movement in the New Orleans area.

[REDACTED] b1 (c)
On September 9, 1965, information was received
from [REDACTED] b7C b7D
[REDACTED] that in a conversation
with [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] the Deacons of
Defense and Justice, Inc. was discussed, and [REDACTED]
informed [REDACTED] that he had attended a meeting concerning this
organization, which was held at Tuskegee on or about
August 15, 1965. [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] informed [REDACTED] that he had attended this meeting, but
did not discuss the organization with [REDACTED], nor admit actual
membership in such an organization.

NO 157-3290/cay

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED] b1
[REDACTED] (C)
[REDACTED] that members (C)
of the DDJ from Bogalusa, Louisiana, area had gone to
Columbia, Mississippi, to establish a DDJ chapter in that
area; and [REDACTED] that individuals from Holmes County (C)
Mississippi, as well as individuals from Columbia,
Mississippi, made inquiries concerning the establishment
of Deacon Chapters.

[REDACTED] b1
[REDACTED] (C)

MEMBERS

[REDACTED] b1
[REDACTED] that the following (C)
individuals were members of the Bogalusa Chapter of the DDJ:

CHARLES SIMS, President

ROYAN BURRIS, Vice President

[REDACTED] former secretary

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NO 157-3290/cay

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On August 20, 1965, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] a self-admitted member of the DDJ, advised that
the following individuals were members of the Bogalusa
Chapter:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] that [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
Bogalusa, were members.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (c)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NO 157-3290/cay

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FINANCES

[REDACTED] b1 that the (c) present monetary payment to join the DDJ was \$10.00, with a \$2.00 monthly dues payment.

[REDACTED] b1 received information which indicated that at a meeting set up to formulate plans for the Deacons, it was reported that there was to be a \$10.00 individual initiation fee and a monthly dues of \$2.00. A \$100.00 membership fee was indicated for a Unit to affiliate with the State Organization, and this \$100.00 membership fee was to be used principally for the purchase of radio and other communications equipment.

[REDACTED] b1 that, in his opinion, A. Z. YOUNG (c) who is connected with the civil rights movement in Bogalusa is out to "milk" the civil rights activities in that area and he further believed that CHARLES SIMS would not be above siphoning off some of the money obtained ostensibly for the Deacons for his own personal use.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NO 157-3290/cay

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED] b7
[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] (c) b1
[REDACTED] b7
[REDACTED] b1
[REDACTED] b7

[REDACTED] that CHARLES (c) b1
SIMS and ROBERT HICKS, member of the DDJ, had recently been
in New York in an effort to raise money for the Deacons, but
very little money had been collected. [REDACTED] that it was (c) b1
his understanding that the current plans of the Deacons in
Bogalusa were to contact those individuals throughout the
U. S. who have been active in fund raising for the Deacons
to obtain as much money as possible for the Bogalusa Chapter
in order to continue their activities in that community.

[REDACTED] b1
[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] b1
[REDACTED] (c)

NO 157-3290/cay

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

WEAPONS

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

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NO 157-3290/cay

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[REDACTED] b1

(c)

On October 19, 1965, a representative of the Alcohol Tax and Tobacco Unit, U. S. Treasury, at Los Angeles, California, advised that he had received information from [REDACTED] that the Deacons at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, allegedly received on July 19, 1965, 420 machine guns that had been manufactured in Czechoslovakia. AT

[REDACTED] b1

(c)

POSSIBLE VIOLENCE

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ASSOCIATION WITH SUBVERSIVE GROUPS

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(1), (b)(7)(C) and (b)(7)(D) with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

- ☐ For your information: _____

- ☐ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

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STATES C NT
MAY 1966
M

DATE: 3/25/66

DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2400)

SAC, CHICAGO (157-572)

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
RM

Re Chicago letter dated 12/3/65, captioned, MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr., SM-C; Chicago airtel and LHM dated 2/28/66, captioned as above (U), and Bureau 0-1, dated 3/22/66, captioned as above (U).

The sources referenced in referenced letter, with whom Chicago is in constant contact, have provided no information which would indicate that KING, through the SCLC or the Deacons, as alleged by original source of this information, but not as alleged by (U).

b7D

The current status of the Deacons is set forth in referenced Chicago LHM of February 28, 1966. Any information obtained by Chicago which appears to have a bearing on this allegation will be expeditiously provided the Bureau and interested offices.

DECLASSIFIED BY SP1 gcl/jt
ON 7-22-80

5190-REC-1/10m

3-25-86

- 3 - Bureau (RM)
 - (1 - 100-106670) (MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr.)
- 1 - Atlanta (100-5583) (RM)
- 1 - New Orleans (157-3290) (RM)
- 2 - Chicago
 - (1 - 100-35356) (MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr.)

JCS:mav
(7)

REC-79

157-2400-118

CONFIDENTIAL

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NO 157-3290/cay

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED] b1 that CHARLES (c) SIMS, President of the DDJ, Bogalusa, Louisiana, spoke at a fund raising affair for the Deacons at the Unitarian Church Hall, Clinton and Filmore Streets, Staten Island, New York, on October 23, 1965. SIMS spoke about the background of the DDJs and the purposes for the organization.

The "Workers World," Volume 7, Number 20, page 3, dated October 14, 1965, containing an article captioned, "President Of Deacons For Defense To Speak In New York," reflected that it was announced by RICHIE LE SEUR, a friend of the Deacons from the newly opened office of the Friends of the DDJ (FDDJ), 271 West 125th, Room 209, New York, New York, that CHARLES SIMS, founder of the DDJ and ROBERT HICKS, Vice President of the BVL will speak in New York on October 23, and October 25, 1965.

The meeting on October 23, 1965, will be at 8:30 PM in the Unitarian Hall, Clinton and Filmore Streets, West Brighton, Staten Island, New York.

On October 25, 1965, a rally will be held at 8:00 PM in Emanuel Church, 37 West 119th Street, New York City.

"The Worker," Volume XXX, Number 89, page 2, dated October 24, 1965, contained an article captioned, "Deacons' President To Speak In New York," which set forth substantially the same information as that contained in the "Workers World." "The Worker" is a east coast Communist newspaper.

[REDACTED] b1 (c)

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[REDACTED] b1 (c)
open forum sponsored by the Socialist Workers Party was held at Eugene V. Debs Hall, Room 25, 5927 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio. At the conclusion of the meeting, HENRY AUSTAN of Bogalusa, Louisiana, spoke and advised that he was in Cleveland to organize a local "Deacons For Defense" Committee. According to the informant, AUSTAN stated that he is not a non-violent pacifist, but rather he believes in violence on the part of the Negro in order to protect himself, even to the extent of armed violence.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MISCELLANEOUS

[REDACTED] ^{b1} that ROBERT (e) HICKS, President of the Voters League in Bogalusa and a charter member of the Deacons for Defense and Justice (DDJ), and CHARLES SIMS, member of the DDJ in Bogalusa, spoke at a dinner held in Detroit, which dinner was held for the Deacons of Bogalusa, Louisiana, and sponsored by Group on Advanced Leadership. During this meeting HICKS and SIMS talked about the experiences and background of the civil rights struggle in Louisiana and told how the Deacons came into being. At this meeting a collection was taken up for the Deacons and \$509.00 was turned over to ROBERT HICKS.

The "Chicago Daily News," a Chicago, Illinois, newspaper, issue of October 15, 1965 carried an article captioned "Militant Negroes Here Forming Armed Unit to Fight the Klan." This article went on to relate that EARNEST THOMAS, a Deacons Vice President and full-time paid national organizer, indicated that the Deacons were organizing a Chicago chapter.

On October 25, 1965, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised that THOMAS had reportedly attempted to interest various groups and individuals in Chicago in forming a Chicago chapter but had no success in these attempts.

[REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NO 157-3290:med

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CONFIDENTIAL
APPENDIX

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REVOLUTIONARY ACTION MOVEMENT

On November 3, 1964, a source made available a document entitled "The Revolutionary Action Movement Manifesto," the document having been obtained by the source from an individual known to be a member of the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM).

This document stated, in part, that RAM was officially organized in the Winter of 1963 by Afro-Americans who support the revolutionary objectives of Robert F. Williams, now residing in Cuba, and his concept of organized violence to achieve the liberation of the Afro-American people in the United States. This Manifesto disclosed that RAM had oriented its program to one of education and political revolution and the organization of a "black" political party with revolutionary objectives, having recognized the need for a "black revolution" that could and would seize power. RAM philosophy is described in this document as one of revolutionary nationalism, that is, one involving the struggles of the nonwhite races of the world against exploitation and enslavement by the white capitalist and imperialist nations.

Regarding Williams, it should be noted that on August 28, 1961, a Federal warrant was issued at Charlotte, North Carolina, charging him with Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution for the crime of kidnapping. Subsequent to the issuance of this warrant, Williams fled the United States to Cuba, where he now publishes a monthly newsletter entitled "The Crusader" from Havana.

This source in September, 1964, advised RAM is dedicated to the overthrow of the capitalist system in the United States, by violence if necessary, and to its replacement by a socialistic system oriented toward the Chinese Communist interpretation of Marxism-Leninism. RAM is entirely nonwhite in membership, clandestine in nature, and owes its primary allegiance to the "Bandung World," that is, the nonwhite races of the world rather than to any national entity, as such.

CONFIDENTIAL
APPENDIX

APPENDIX

CONFIDENTIAL

REVOLUTIONARY ACTION MOVEMENT

2

On November 16, 1964, a second source advised he learned recently from a RAM member that the organization began in Detroit, Michigan, largely under the impetus of Don Freeman, described as the "Father" of RAM and referred to as RAM's "Black Stalin." Freeman served as RAM Chairman, with Maxwell Stanford, now of New York City, formerly of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, serving as RAM Field Chairman.

This source stated in May, 1965, there has been no formal headquarters, as such, for RAM but that headquarters have been with Freeman since he has played such a dominant role in the leadership of and has directed the policies and activities of the organization.

Within recent months, according to the second source, dissension within RAM has become evident and some dissatisfaction with Freeman's leadership has arisen. So far as is known, however, he remains the titular leader of RAM.

To date, according to the second source in May, 1965, RAM has organized units and membership in several of the larger cities in the United States east of the Mississippi River and the organization is currently active in attempting to recruit new members and expand its sphere of influence.

APPENDIX

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE OF THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL

A source advised on September 9, 1964, that the Revolutionary Committee of the Fourth International (RCFI) was also known as the Spartacist Committee and the Spartacist Group. This source described the RCFI as being composed of former members of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) who had split from the SWP and who were led by James Robertson. This source stated that this political unit has its main center in New York City, where it publishes "Spartacist" on a very irregular basis, but their formal meetings are held at least once a week.

A second source advised on March 4, 1964, that Farrell Dobbs, National Secretary of the SWP, sent a letter to all SWP branches in February, 1964, in which he advised that the expelled leader of a minority faction of the SWP, James Robertson, announced on February 10, 1964, that his faction would publicly criticize the SWP and had followed this with a public organ called "Spartacist" in which they attacked the SWP.

The July-August, 1964, issue of "Spartacist," in its masthead describes this publication as follows: "... published bi-monthly by supporters of the Revolutionary Tendency expelled from the Socialist Workers Party." This masthead sets forth that the editor of the publication is James Robertson, and its main address is Post Office Box 1377, General Post Office, New York, New York.

The SWP has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

APPENDIX

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A P P E N D I X

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY -
NEW YORK LOCAL

A source stated on August 25, 1960, that the New York Local (NYL) of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) was founded during 1938 in New York City.

A second confidential source stated on April 8, 1964, that the NYL was affiliated with and followed the aims and purposes of the National SWP.

The SWP has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

A P P E N D I X

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
APPENDIX

"WORKERS WORLD"

On May 3, 1965, a confidential source advised that the "Workers World" is the official newspaper of the Workers World Party, published twice monthly, with editorial offices located at 46 West 21st Street, New York, New York.

APPENDIX

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11 New Orleans, Louisiana
12 January 10, 1966
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17
18 Title DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,
19 INC.
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21
22 Character RACIAL MATTERS
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25 Reference Report of SA [REDACTED] b7
26 dated January 10, 1966, at New
27 Orleans, Louisiana
28
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30 All sources (except any listed below) whose identities
31 are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable
32 information in the past.
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48 This document contains neither recommendations nor con-
49 clusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and
50 is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to
51 be distributed outside your agency.
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FBI

Date: 3/14/66

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Via AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: Director, FBI

FROM: SAC, Detroit (157-NEW)

APPEARANCE OF ROBERT THOMAS,
VICE PRESIDENT, DRIGGONS OF
DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.,
JEFFERSON, LOUISIANA,
SPONSORED BY THE
FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIALIST FORUM,
DETROIT, MICHIGAN
4/1/66
RE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP
DATE 10/1/81 BY SP-6

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of an LHM concerning
captioned matter. The copies are being furnished to the
New Orleans Office, which is office of origin of the Defense and
Justice, Inc.

One copy of LHM being furnished G-2, USA, OSI, CIA, and one
copy being furnished U.S. Secret Service, Detroit, Michigan.

Contents of the LHM have been made available to [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] (C)

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The Bureau will be advised of the results of Thomas' appearance.

4 - Bureau (Enc. 8) (RM)

(1 - 157-3466)

2 - New Orleans (Enc. 2) (RM)

(1 - 157-3230)

4 - Detroit

(1 - 157-1047 POSSIBLE RACIAL VIOLENCE)

[REDACTED] (C) b1

(1 - 157-1047)

EDG/rms

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ENCLOSURE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-6/80/14/1-22-80

REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2

DATE OF REVIEW 3-24-88

53 APR 15 1966

Special Agent in Charge

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

BEST COPY AVAILABLE



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Please Refer to

Detroit, Michigan
March 24, 1966

Re: Appearance of Ernest Thomas,
Vice President, Deacons of
Defense and Justice, Incorporated,
Jonesboro, Louisiana, Sponsored
By the Friday Night Socialist Forum,
Detroit, Michigan
April 1, 1966

A characterization of the Friday Night
Socialist Forum is contained in the
appendix attached hereto.

All unidentified sources utilized in the
appendix have furnished reliable information
in the past.

On March 23, 1966, a source, who has furnished
reliable information in the past, advised that Ernest Thomas,
Vice President of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Incorporated,
from Jonesboro, Louisiana, will speak at Detroit, Michigan, on
April 1, 1966, at a forum sponsored by the Friday Night Socialist
Forum which will be held at 3737 Woodward Avenue, Detroit,
Michigan.

The source advised that some of the proceeds derived
from this affair would be utilized to assist the Deacons of
Defense and Justice, Incorporated, in connection with their
activities in the Louisiana area.

The Articles of Incorporation of the
Deacons of Defense and Justice (DDJ)
as on file with the Secretary of State,
for the State of Louisiana, reflects
that the Deacons of Defense and Justice,
Inc. is a Louisiana corporation
domiciled at Jonesboro, Louisiana. The
location and business office address of
its registered office shall be Amos
Service Station (rear), Beach Spring Road,
Drawer B, Jonesboro, Louisiana.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-22-80 BY SP1 gcl/jr ENCLOSURE

CLOSURE

Re: Appearance of Ernest Thomas, Etc.

"This corporation is organized for the following purposes and to carry on the following purposes: To instruct, train, teach and educate Citizens of the United States and especially minority groups in the fundamental principals of the republican form of government and our democratic way of life; to instruct, teach, train and educate said persons in the provisions of the constitution and laws of the United States and the State of Louisiana, as well as the constitution and laws of any other State wherein this corporation may operate; to instruct, teach, train and educate said persons in the use, value and purpose of the ballot and the right to vote; to instruct, teach, train and educate said persons as to the duties and responsibilities of good citizenship relative to the obligation and duties of the citizen to the community and the obligation and duties of the community to the citizen: To further instruct, teach, train and educate said persons in the value of economic security and in the effective use of their spending power to inspire in said persons a sense of responsibility and to develop leadership. This corporation has for its further purpose, and is dedicated to, the defense of the civil rights, property rights and personal rights of said people and will defend said rights by any and all honorable and legal means to the end that justice may be obtained. This corporation may establish chapters and conduct its business at any place in this State and elsewhere as permitted by law."

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It is the property of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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APPENDIX

FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIALIST FORUM

On May 19, 1965, a source advised that the Friday Night Socialist Forum (FNSF) is a name used by the Detroit, Michigan Branch of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) in sponsoring forums, socials and other functions which are open to the public. Primarily, FNSF pertains to weekly public forums held at SWP headquarters, for the purpose of spreading propaganda of the SWP, developing contacts, facilitating recruitment and members into the SWP, and presenting subjects of a controversial nature in the social, political and economic fields. Usually speakers are members of the SWP and they give the socialist viewpoint of the subject discussed. The money collected at these FNSFs goes to the Detroit Branch, SWP treasury.

The SWP has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

FBI

Date: 4/20/66

(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (9-2104)

SUBJECT: UNSUB; DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND
JUSTICE, GRAMBLING, LA.;

VICTIMS
EXTORTION - RACIAL MATTERS
(OO: NEW ORLEANS)

Re New Orleans airtels 4/14 and 4/15/66.

Enclosed herewith are eight copies of a LHM.

One copy of instant LHM is being designated
to the U. S. Attorney, Shreveport, La., ICG and
Secret Service, New Orleans.

Final report will be submitted in this
matter once the report has been received from the
FBI Laboratory concerning the extortion letters to

NOT RECORDED
199 MAY 3 1966

ENCLOSURE

MCT-22

REC-81

3- Bureau (Enc. 3)
2- New Orleans

CEN:mln
(5)

APR 22 1966

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-22-80 BY SP1/SCM

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

New Orleans, Louisiana
April 20, 1963.

UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
SOURCES OF REPUTATION AND JOURNALISM,
COMMUNIST, LUNATIC;

[REDACTED]

WOTING

b7C

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] of Grantling, Louisiana, were interviewed
concerning letters they had received from the Sources
of Defense and Justice.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-22-80 BY SP1 gpl/jk

157-2406-

ENCLOSURE

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET14

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466) ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ DATE: 1/11/66

FROM : SAC, JACKSON (157-3465) (P)

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND
JUSTICE, INC., aka;
RM

OO: New Orleans

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 JPL/jh 7-22-8
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 1-11-88

Re Jackson letter to Bureau, 10/26/65 and Jackson
letter to San Francisco, 12/13/65, no cc Bureau.

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of an LHM
with two copies for New Orleans and one copy for San Francisco.
One copy each is being forwarded to INTC, OSI, ONI, and
Secret Service, Jackson.

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] have been
advised of results in the LHM.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] was interviewed by SA [REDACTED].

An information copy is being submitted to San
Francisco in view of their interest in this matter.

2-Bureau (157-2466) (Enc. 8) (RM)
2-New Orleans (157-3290) (Enc. 2) (RM)
1-San Francisco (Enc. 1) (RM)
4-Jackson (157-3465) [REDACTED] (c) b1

JOI/sjw
(9)

AGENCY: ACRI, ONI, OSI, SEC. SER.;
DATE: 1/11/66
HOW FORW: Bpm: [REDACTED]
BY: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] CONTROL
[REDACTED]

JN 157-3465

LEADS:

NEW ORLEANS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

At Bogalusa, Louisiana

Will, through sources, continue to advise the Jackson Division of any Deacons reportedly traveling to Mississippi for meetings or attempting to form chapters in Mississippi.

JACKSON

At Jackson, Mississippi

Will maintain contact with sources to obtain background concerning organization of Deacons of Defense and Justice. If chapters in Mississippi organized, will attempt to determine leadership, strength of members, activities, as well as arms acquired.

Will attempt to determine potentiality for violence or any outside influence on members or chapters if formed.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

January 11, 1966

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RACIAL MATTERS

On November 10, 1965 [REDACTED] b7c

, advised b7d

a Special Agent of the FBI that he had been informed that on the previous day an individual representing the Deacons for Defense and Justice appeared as a speaker at the College of San Mateo, San Mateo, California. At the time of the speaker's appearance, a handbill was passed out to those in attendance indicating the organization is located at 101 North First Street, Natchez, Mississippi. A copy of the handbill was made available and it is set forth as follows:

DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE

101 North First Street

Natchez, Mississippi

November 10, 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Reference is made to a letter in Natchez and Adams County, Mississippi, dated November 10, 1965, which states that the Deacons for Defense and Justice are necessary for the Negro citizens to organize themselves for defense of justice. The purpose of the organization is to protect the lives and property of the Negro citizens from the Ku Klux Klan, and members of the organization are the Ku Klux Klan, whose objective is to protect the civil rights by violence, and to protect the lives and property of the Negro citizens.

The Deacons for Defense and Justice are to purchase such items as Walkie Talkies, Radio Equipment, Uniform Equipment and Cars that are used to patrol the Negro neighborhood.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1824/44 7-22-8/157-2466-105
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 1-11-8

ENCLOSURE ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES

ADVISORY BY ROUTING

SLIP (S) OF CLASS. &
DATE 8/21/80

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Any contribution that you give will be greatly appreciated. Make all checks, money orders payable to the Natchez Sportsmen Club. The name "Sportsmen Club" is used in order to obtain a Mississippi state charter.

"Yours truly,

"NATCHEZ CHAPTER OF DEACONS FOR
DEFENSE AND JUSTICE

"JAMES JACKSON, PRESIDENT"

[REDACTED] stated that based on information he had received, no mention was made of purchase of guns in the leaflet, however, during the course of the speaker's appearance, he indicated that any donations received would be used among other things for the purchase of firearms for self defense.

[REDACTED] stated that the leaflet contained a telephone number 362-1747 which was to be called for further information.

On November 10, 1965 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] College of San Mateo, advised a Special Agent of the FBI that on the previous day an individual had appeared as a speaker on the campus from captioned organization. He stated that the appearance had been cleared by the college, however, he was not sure of the details of the call.

[REDACTED] College of San Mateo, advised on November 11, 1965 that on the previous day Thomas Stokes, representing the Deacons for Defense and Justice had appeared as a speaker on the campus. [REDACTED] stated that Stokes' appearance was unsponsored, however, he had been introduced by the Chairman of the Faculty-Student Civil

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED

CONFIDENTIAL

Rights Club and had been in the company of [REDACTED], a student at the College of San Mateo. [REDACTED] stated that at the time Stokes requested permission to speak on the campus, a check had been made by the college with responsible personnel of the local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Through this organization, they had been advised that the Deacons for Defense and Justice were legitimate and responsible individuals, however, they personally did not agree with the goals or their proposed use of arms for self-defense. As a result, it was decided by college officials to permit Stokes to speak, however, permission to appeal for funds was denied.

[REDACTED] stated that he was present during the entire speech by Stokes and that after listening to him talk, he was convinced that Stokes was sincere and felt that he made a good impression. He advised that Stokes' statements appeared to be responsible with the exception of one statement in which he indicated that the Ku Klux Klan had infiltrated "every phase of American government."

[REDACTED] stated that Stokes respected the college's request that he not appeal for funds, however, during the question and answer period did state that the men in the organization carried guns but would not use them first, however, would defend their lives if necessary. Stokes was asked where he obtained firearms and he replied that this information was secret and that he could not tell.

[REDACTED] further stated that there was no direct statement that donations would be used for the purchase of firearms, however, based on the questions asked Stokes it would be possible for someone to believe this was implied.

CONFIDENTIAL

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED

CONFIDENTIAL

[REDACTED] stated that actually there was no organization of the Deacons of Defense and Justice in the Natchez area.

[REDACTED] Mississippi [REDACTED] advised on October 29, 1965 that he has made inquiries concerning the Deacons of Defense and Justice and he has received no pertinent information concerning the organization.

[REDACTED] Walthall County, Mississippi, advised that he has contacted numerous sources in his county and around Tylertown, Mississippi and he has obtained no information that chapters of the Deacons of Defense and Justice are being organized.

CONFIDENTIAL

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED] Lexington, Mississippi, advised on November 18, 1965 that he has received no information that there are any Deacons of Defense and Justice chapters in Holmes County.

[REDACTED] Hattiesburg, Mississippi, advised on December 13, 1965 there were no chapters of the Deacons of Defense and Justice in Forrest County, Mississippi to his knowledge.

[REDACTED] that to his knowledge, there are no chapters formed within the State of Mississippi. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] he has obtained no pertinent information regarding the Deacons of Defense and Justice.

[REDACTED] that there is no Deacons of Defense and Justice organization in the State of Mississippi.

[REDACTED] that there is no organization or chapters in existence in the State of Mississippi. This source advised he is in daily contact with Negro civil rights workers.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

SAC, New Orleans (157-3290)

1/21/66

Director, FBI (157-2466)

1 - Mr. Murphy

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND
JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RACIAL MATTERS

b7C
Rerep of SA [REDACTED] dated 1/10/66 at
New Orleans. Your attention is directed to Part 1, Page 102,
FBI Handbook which requires the submission of seven copies
of investigative reports regarding racial matters.

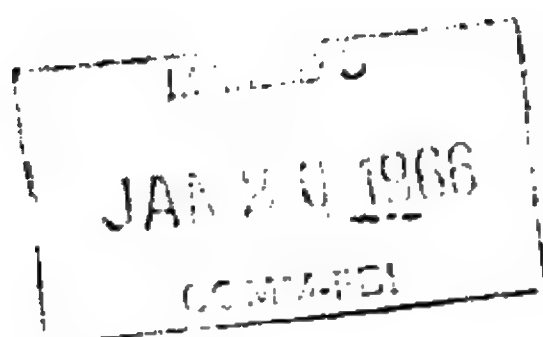
It is noted, however, that reports regarding
captioned organization are disseminated to seven government
agencies at the Seat of Government.

In view of the foregoing, in the future you are
instructed to submit to the Bureau nine copies of investigative
reports or letterhead memoranda regarding this organization.

BPM:sss
(4)

NOTE:

Deacons of Defense and Justice communications are
disseminated at the Seat of Government to the three military
intelligence agencies, Civil Rights and Internal Security
Divisions of the Department, and the Community Relations
Service at the request of that agency.



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7-22-80 BY SP1 gpl/fv

MAIL ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

JAN 26 1966

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (157-1184)(P*)

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
RM

OO: New Orleans

DATE: 1/31/66

Re Los Angeles letter to Bureau dated January 7, 1966; Bureau 0-7 dated January 17, 1966.

Enclosed for the Bureau is an original and seven copies of a letterhead memorandum concerning information received from Agent [redacted] Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Unit, (ATTU) U. S. Treasury Department, Los Angeles. Three copies of the LHM are being designated for the Office of Origin, New Orleans, and one copy for Dallas, inasmuch as the Dallas Office of the ATTU covers Louisiana. One copy each is also being sent to OSI, Maywood, California, FIC, Los Angeles and Secret Service, Los Angeles.

This LHM is being classified confidential because this information could possibly identify the ATTU source.

3 - Bureau (Encls. 8)(RM)
1 - Dallas (Encl. 1)(RM)
2 - New Orleans (157-3290)(Encls. 3)(RM)
2 - Los Angeles
RNT:maw
(8)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-22-80 BY SP1 gsh/jk REC-31

AGENCY: [redacted]
DATE: 2/15/66
BY: [redacted]
BPM: [redacted]

3 FEB 3 1966

RECEIVED CONTROL



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Los Angeles, California
January 31, 1966

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE
AND JUSTICE

On December 20, 1965, [redacted] representative of the
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Unit, U. S. Treasury Department,
Los Angeles, [redacted] advised that no further information
[redacted] the shipment of machine guns
[redacted] Czechoslovakian Firearms Manufacturer to the Deacons
of Defense and Justice. ATF referral

He said that it may take several months to obtain
the details of this transaction.

This document contains neither recommendations
nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI
and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not
to be distributed outside your agency.

DECLASSIFIED BY SP1 gch jfi
ON 7-22-80

CONFIDENTIAL

GROUP I

Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

157-5-2 100
ENCLOSURE

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-3022) DATE: JAN 4 1966

FROM: SAC, WFO (157-583)(P)

SUBJECT: ORGANIZATION FOR BLACK POWER (OBP)
RM RACIAL MATTERS
(OO:NY)ALL INFORMATION
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-22-80 BY SP1/edh/jr

On 1/7/66, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (protect
identity-has furnished reliable information in the past),
advised [REDACTED]b7C
b7D

- ③ - Bureau
- 2 - Chicago (157-678)(RM)
- 2 - Detroit (157-958)(RM)
- 2 - New York (157-1469)(RM)
- 2 - New Orleans (157-)(RM)
- 2 - Philadelphia (157-1508)(RM)
- 4 - WFO
 - (1- 157-528) [REDACTED]
 - (1- 157-425)(ACT)
 - (1- 157-237)(LIAISON)

JHK:dmw
(17)

2 CC 808 RB

157-3022
NOT RECORDED
12 JAN 1966

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
MEMORANDUM

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

1/31/66

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEWARK - PUC -

SUBJECT: THE DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.
RM
Newark File 157-1922
Bureau File 157-2466

JOHN BROWN COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE
IS - C
Newark File 100-48717
Bureau File 100-

Re Pittsburgh airtel to Bureau, dated 11/15/65.

[REDACTED]

b1

3 - Bureau (RM)
2 - New Orleans (157-3290) (RM)
2 - Pittsburgh (157-429) (RM)
1 - New York (157-1542) (Info) (RM)
2 - Newark
JRL:ks
(10)

REC-10 157-2466-10

FEB 2 1966

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 gch/jf 7-22-80
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 1-31-82

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

F B I

Date: 1/31/66

Transmit the following in _____

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)
(157-)FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (157-572)
(157-840)SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND
JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RM
(ORGANIZATION)ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

RM

Remyaitel to Bureau, 12/10/65; and report of
SA [REDACTED] 1/10/66, at New Orleans captioned, b7C
"DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED, aka - RM."

On the dates indicated, the following advised that no information has been developed which would indicate that a chapter of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc., (DDJ), has been formed in Chicago. They also advised that there has been no indication that EARNEST THOMAS, who is associated with the DDJ is presently in Chicago, nor has there been any indication that he has been in Chicago within the past several months:

- 4 - Bureau (RM)
(1 - 157-) ([REDACTED])
3 - New Orleans (157-3290) (DDJ) (RM)
(1 - 157-) ([REDACTED])
2 - WFO (Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc.) (RM)
3 - Chicago
(1 - 157-413)

LGR:keh
(12)CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 gch / 1/2/80
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 1-31-80

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CG 157-572
157-840

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

LEADS

NEW ORLEANS

AT NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA. Will furnish Chicago any information received concerning any indication that a chapter of the DDJ may be organized in Chicago.

WASHINGTON FIELD

AT WASHINGTON, D. C. By letter to the Bureau dated 1/5/66, from Washington Field captioned, "Organization for Black Power - RM", Washington Field advised that on 12/15/65,

[REDACTED] (protect identity), who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that the DDJ had recently organized an office in Chicago.

Washington Field re-interview [REDACTED] concerning any information that he has which would indicate that a chapter of the DDJ has actually been formed in Chicago.

CHICAGO

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. Will continue to be alert for any information concerning the opening of a Chicago chapter of the DDJ, and the Bureau and New Orleans will be kept fully informed of developments in this matter.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

2/4/66

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
SAC, WFO

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RM
Bufile 157-2466
WFO file 157-794 (P)

[REDACTED] b7C
RM
Bufile 157-
WFO file 157-801 (P)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-22-80 BY SP1 [signature]

Re Chicago airtel dated 1/31/66 in same caption.
On 2/4/66, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (subject of [REDACTED])
who has furnished reliable information in the past, stated as follows:

[REDACTED]

- 5 - Bureau
(1-157-3022) (OBP)
- 8 - Chicago (RM)
(1-157-572) (DODJ) (157-678) (OBP)
(1-157-840) ([REDACTED]) (157- [REDACTED]) (ACT)
- 4 - New Orleans (RM)
(1-157-3290) (DODJ)
(1-157- [REDACTED]) ([REDACTED]) b7C
- 4 - New York (RM)
(1-100-91911) ([REDACTED])
(1-157-1469) (OBP)

- 2 - Philadelphia (Info) (RM)
(1-157-1500) (OBP)
- 7 - WFO
(1-157-520) ([REDACTED]) b7C
(1-157-277) (LIAISON SOURCES)
(1-157-401) (RM)
(1-157-425) (ACT)
(1-157-550) (OBP)

EX 109 REC-6

11 FEB 10 1966
(20) 157-2466-10

ALBANY

57 FEB 21 1966

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Copy of this being sent Philadelphia [REDACTED]

b7C
b7D

LEAD

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

AT WASHINGTON, D.C. Contact will be maintained with [REDACTED] to ascertain [REDACTED] has promised to furnish when completed.

WFO will submit information from [REDACTED] in [REDACTED]

DECODED COPY

☐ AIRGRAM ☐ CABLEGRAM ☒ RADIO ☐ TELETYPE

R-1

URGENT 2-8-66 7:01PM

TO DIRECTOR

FROM NEW ORLEANS 082322

SPEECH MATTERS.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED &

DATE 7-22-88 BY SP1 JCF/f

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LETTER DATED FEBRUARY 4, 1966 RECEIVED NEW ORLEANS
OFFICE FEBRUARY 8, 1966 FROM EXECUTIVE SECRETARY JOSEPH ST. HENRY,
JR., DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.
REQUESTING SAC OR SOMEONE FROM "YOUR LEGAL STAFF REPRESENT
YOU" AT A PUBLIC DEBATE ON LAW AND CITIZENSHIP ON FEBRUARY 10, 1966,
NEW ORLEANS. LETTER STATED SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, THE
MAYOR, CORE, NAACP AND MISSISSIPPI FREEDOM DEMOCRATIC PARTY
REPRESENTATIVES WOULD BE PRESENT.

THIS LETTER BEING ORALLY ACKNOWLEDGED, ADVISING MR. HENRY
DUE TO HEAVY WORK COMMITMENTS I WILL BE UNABLE TO ATTEND
OR SEND A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FBI AND HE WILL BE OFFERED
COPIES OF THE PAMPHLET "THE FBI, GUARDIAN OF CIVIL RIGHTS". JACB

RECEIVED: 7:24PM DLH

MR. DEAN AT THE DIRECTOR

cc: MR. WICK

NOTED

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-22-80 BY SP1 gcl/lr
3/21/83

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, WFO

RE: MURDER OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., 4/4/68
FBI

(Bufile 157-2406)

(WFO file 157-734) (RM)

[REDACTED] b7C

FBI

(Bufile 157-)

(WFO file 157-331) (P)

Re: WFO airtel 2/14/68, in which captioned

On 2/14/68, [REDACTED]

remained confidential information in this case, captioned
[REDACTED] that MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. was shot and killed on 4/4/68.
(RM) has an office at 4004 Church St., N.W., Atlanta, Georgia, telephone 523-4111, and also has an office in Miami, Florida.
This information should be handled with discretion to protect
[REDACTED]'s identity.

③ - Bureau

4 - Chicago (RM)

(1- 157-375) (RM)

(1- 157-375) [REDACTED] b7C

4 - New Orleans (Info) (RM)

(1- 157-3200) (RM)

(1- 157- [REDACTED])

3 - New York (Info) (RM)

2 - Philadelphia (Info) (RM)

4 - WFO

(1- 157-340) [REDACTED]

(1- 157-240) (BUREAU FORWARD)

WFO: [REDACTED]

(RM)

C. C. Wick

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FEB 24 1968

54 MAR 1968

WFO 107-784

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated there are no DDJ members and no DDJ organization in Washington, D. C. No further investigation being conducted regarding the DDJ.

LEAD

WASHINGTON FIELD

AT WASHINGTON, D. C. WILL SELECT [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] through liaison with [REDACTED]
report concerning [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

b7C
b7D

Date: 27-28-66

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(Priority)

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 JH/ML
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 2-28-82

Enclosed for the Bureau are nine copies of a LHM, three copies for New Orleans, and two copies for Washington Field concerning captioned matter.

Referenced Washington Field airtel advised that information was received on 2/16/66, that EARNEST TROMAN of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Incorporated, has an office at 4654 Cremak, Chicago, Illinois, office telephone 621-6413. There is no Cremak Road in Chicago and this apparently should be Cermak Road.

A telephone call to Chicago telephone number 521-6413 was made by SA [REDACTED] on 11/14/66, and an operator advised that this number has been discontinued and all calls for this number are being taken by [REDACTED] b7

- ② - Bureau (Encl. 9) (RM) (1 - 157-██████████)
- 3 - New Orleans (157-3290) (Info.) (Encl. 8) (RM)
(Deacons of Defense and Justice, Incorporated)
(1 - 157-██████████)
- 2 - Washington Field (Encl. 2) (RM) (Info.)
(1 - 157-794) (DSS) (Info.) (1 - 157-601) ██████████
- 3 - Chicago (1 - 157-413) 102 / 17 /

LGR: F
(12) R

REG-133

1 MAR 2 1965

Approved:

Sent

Special Agent in Charge

55 MAR 11 1966

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On 2/24/66, [REDACTED] advised SAs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that

[REDACTED] there is no office of the DDJ at 4054 West Cermak Road and EARNEST THOMAS has never resided at this address and he is not personally acquainted with THOMAS.

b7C
b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated that on several occasions he had noticed that [REDACTED] had received mail from EARNEST THOMAS and literature concerning the DDJ.

Chicago files reveal the following

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(1), (b)(7)(C) and (b)(7)(D) with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

- ☐ For your information: _____

- ☐ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

XXXXXX
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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

CG 157-572

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One copy of this LHM is being disseminated for Region I, 113th INTC Group; United States Secret Service, and USA, all Chicago, Illinois.

LEAD

CHICAGO

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. Will be alert for any information concerning the opening of the Chicago chapter of the DDJ and the Bureau and New Orleans will be kept fully informed of all developments in this matter.

CONFIDENTIAL



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

***In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.***

Chicago, Illinois
February 26, 1966

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DRAGONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,
INCORPORATED
RACIAL MATTERS (ORGANIZATION) OFF

RACIAL MATTERS

Reference is made to Chicago memorandum dated December 10, 1965, at Chicago, Illinois.

Earnest Thomas, Vice-President and Regional Organizer of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Incorporated (DDJ), was the speaker at the meeting of the Friday Night Socialist Forum (FNSF) held on February 18, 1966, at Chicago, Illinois.

Thomas stated that the DDJ was formed at Jonesboro, Louisiana, in July, 1964, for the purpose of protecting Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) and Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) workers in Louisiana who were being beaten and sometimes murdered by the "red necked sheriffs". Thomas said that in one week the DDJ had 500 armed Negroes.

Thomas referred to the civil rights demonstrations as a "game" and said that he cannot understand people who demonstrate for their rights and said they should take what is rightfully theirs. Thomas did not specifically mention how people should take what is rightfully theirs.

Thomas said that the anti-poverty legislation was enacted just to placate and "sugar coat" the Negro. The only people who will benefit from this legislation are the "fat politicians; they get the cream while the masses get the skim-milk". He ridiculed education as being the solution of the

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CLASS. & EXT BY SP1 Jd / 7-22-2
 REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
 DATE OF REVIEW 2-28-86

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
ENCLOSURE

157-2000-

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RE: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
[REDACTED] b7C

Negro problem because he knows that many Negroes with college degrees are nothing but janitors.

Thomas claimed that 50% of the soldiers in Vietnam are Negroes and stated "I guess the power structure feels if they can kill off seven or eight million or as it will solve the problem." The power structure ought to arm the Negroes in the South and solve the problems there before taking on international problems.


Thomas stated that he foresees a black revolution in Chicago this summer and that the Federal Government better do something to solve the problems of the Negroes or it will not be safe for white people to go through Negro neighborhoods. He mentioned the Watts Riot in Los Angeles and said the Jews were exploiting the Negroes and the Negroes probably burned stores and records so that the Jews would not know what Negroes owed money to them.

Thomas said that Chicago is going to be the regional headquarters for the northern area of the DDJ and stated they have 62 chapters of the DDJ strategically located so that whenever necessary they can apply pressure if necessary. He said they have a broad base of operations and if he is ever killed there will be someone to take over the leadership. He said that if he was killed there will be a retaliatory act, an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth and for every one of those that are killed, three of the best whites will die. He stated that they are not going to bow to the power structure or anyone else.

A characterization on the DDJ is contained in appendix pages of this memorandum.

On February 24, 1966, [REDACTED] advised that no information has been developed which would indicate that a chapter of the DDJ has been formed in Chicago or that the DDJ has obtained any office space in Chicago. He also stated that

b7C
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8 RE: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
9  b7C

10
11 Earnest Thomas reportedly is in and out of Chicago frequently
12 and is not known to have any permanent residence in Chicago.
13

14 Confidential informants who are acquainted with
15 certain racial matters in the Chicago, Illinois, area advised
16 during February, 1966, that no information has been developed
17 which would indicate that a chapter of the DDJ has been
18 formed in Chicago or that the DDJ has obtained any office
19 space in Chicago."
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APPENDIX

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FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIALIST FORUM,
Aka. Militant Labor Forum

On May 3, 1965, a source advised that the Forum is a paper organization set up by the Chicago Branch, Socialist Workers Party (CBSWP), Chicago, Illinois, for Socialist Workers Party (SWP) members and sympathizers. Open meetings held under the auspices of this Forum are geared to the activities that the SWP is pursuing at a particular time, e.g., unemployment, election campaign, Cuba, segregation, etc.

SUZANNE BUCH, a CBSWP member, is in charge of the Forum and schedules meetings under the name of the Forum in order to conceal the SWP sponsorship of same. The meetings of the Forum generally are held at Chicago SWP headquarters although the Forum, in the past, has sponsored other affairs, such as meetings, socials and picnics held at other locations.

The SWP has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

APPENDIX

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APPENDIX

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY,
CHICAGO BRANCH

On May 3, 1965, a source advised that it was his understanding that the currently active Chicago Branch of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) was one of the founding branches of the SWP at a 1938 Chicago Trotskyist Convention, and it follows the aims and principles of the SWP which maintains national headquarters in New York City.

Members of the Chicago Branch serve on the SWP National Committee, and per capita membership dues and a sustaining fund quota are sent by this branch on a monthly basis to SWP National Headquarters.

The SWP has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

APPENDIX

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